No. 70 Federal St., Troy, N.Y.

March 12th, 1879.

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Mr. Wm. Lloyd Garrison,

Dear Sir:

Although I am a perfect stranger to you I still venture to address this letter to you for the purpose of asking you a question which you will, I presume, be kind enough to answer. As I do not wish to put you to any expense I shall enclose a postal card upon which you will please write your reply. The question which I wish to ask you is the following:

Is it true that Lillburn Lewis cut one of his slaves to pieces alive and deliberately threw them into the fire, all for the purpose of teaching his slaves "to stay at home and obey his orders."? If so, was the monster punished for his crimes? If he was punished, what was the nature of the punishment he received?

I am one of the many who rise up and call you blessed for the services which you have rendered the cause of universal freedom. During and before the war I was a boy living in a small town in central Ohio. I was then in utter ignorance of the barbarism of slavery. After the war the "Key" to Uncle Tom's Cabin fell into my hands, and I read it through with feelings of intense hor-

nor at the barbarities of the slave power. Having read the Key I was very anxious to read Uncle Tom's Cabin itself, which I soon had the satisfaction of doing. This was during the time that Grant and Greeley were struggling for the Presidential chair. Before reading the above mentioned works I had been a Democrat, but when I learned what kind of company the Democratic party had been keeping before the war and even during the same, I made up my mind that it would be impossible for me to be identified with such a party any longer. During the Grant vs. Greeley campaign I was in the habit of reading your articles in the New York Independent, and I was very much pleased with them indeed. What made them so much more interesting to me was the fact that I read in the Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin that the Governor of Georgia had offered a reward to any one who would kidnap you and take you to that state for trial. I considered this act on the part of the Governor of a sovereign state of the Union as one of the greatest atrocities of which any state official could be guilty.

Ever since I learned that southern slavery was such a heinous sin I have taken pains to get further information upon the subject. Hence I have lately read "The Suppressed Book about Slavery," in which the horrible story is told to which my question has reference. As the copy which I have been reading does not contain the name of the author, I am not able to say further

the book is reliable or not. For this reason I now come to you with my question; for I am sure that you know as much about slavery as any other northern white man. Hoping that you will do me the favor of answering my question and wishing you the blessing of God, I remain

Very truly yours,

A. Pflueger.

MS.A.1.2 v.40 p.88(6).